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Uniform policy

Version Control:

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1	September 2022		G.Gibbons	September 2022
1.1	June 2025	Amendment to PE uniform from September 2025.	G.Gibbons	September 2025
1.2	April 2026	Amendment to PE uniform (AfPE updates) from September 2026	G.Gibbons	30 April 2026

Mission Statement

Together in truth and faith we learn and grow as God's family

At St Francis, we show the joy of being the children of God:

TRUTH

Truth and love are at the heart of our school

FAITH

By following in Jesus' footsteps, our faith is strengthened

LEARN

We promote and nurture the uniqueness of every child while striving for excellence in God's presence

GROW

As part of the family of St Francis we grow closer to God through our daily words and actions

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1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers
- Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
- Clarify our expectations for school uniform

2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

The [Equality Act 2010](#) prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, to give all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that most reflects their self-identified gender
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- Allow all pupils to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with Mrs Gibbons (headteacher) through the school office, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests (requests may not be granted if these do not align to school values, principles or the healthy and safety of the school)

3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory [guidance](#) from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that have to have a school logo or a unique fabric/colour/design) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and that requiring many such items limits parents' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.

We will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers
- Limits branded items to 3

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where for example, by only asking that the jumper or cardigan / PE jacket or hoodie, features the school logo
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes
- Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

Trousers/skirts/pinafores – grey.

- Purple checked summer dresses.
- White shirt / polo shirt – (available with school badge on).
- School tie – to be worn with shirt.
- Jumper or cardigan - purple with the **school logo badge on**.
- Grey or white socks.
- Tights – grey.
- Sensible outdoor footwear.
- A change of footwear for indoors – plain black plimsolls / pumps.
- School book bag (rucksacks are only allowed in Early Years classes or for pupils with intimate care requirements) – purple with the **school logo badge on**.

PE – please note shorts and trousers should be unbranded e.g. no sports branding

Indoor:

- White T shirt and plain black shorts.
- Purple zip jacket or purple hoodie - with **school logo badge on**.

Outdoor:

- As above plus plain black tracksuit bottoms.
- Trainers.

Children should wear single stud earrings only. Staff will ask pupils to remove earrings that are hooped / dangled or deemed a health and safety hazard to the child. To comply with local authority and AfPE Health and Safety expectations as outlined within our PE policy, earrings must be removed by the child for PE lessons or physical activity both within the school day or for extracurricular activities.

(Year 6 pupils often have the opportunity to wear a PTA/School arranged leavers hoodie. When these have been distributed by school staff during summer term in celebration of their time at Primary School, these can be worn for 1 PE lesson per week at the discretion of the headteacher. The chosen day will be communicated to the parents and pupils at the time of distribution by the School).

Swimming:

- Swimming trunks.
- One-piece swimming costume.
- Swimming hat (optional).
- Towel.

All clothing must be labelled with the child's name.

Hair styles

- Shaved lines or patterns are not allowed please.
- Died hair deemed to be extreme or inappropriate to school are not allowed please.
- If your child has long hair, please tie up long hair and use plain hair accessories suitable for school (e.g. plain black or purple hairbands or black / purple hair bobbles)

4.2 Where to purchase it

- School uniform, that is unbranded is available from 'high-street' retailers / supermarkets.
- School uniform, that is branded jumpers / cardigans / PE hoodies and jackets are available from 'the uniform Centre – Morley' or online based shop 'Gooddies' (www.gooddies.co.uk).
- second-hand uniform:

Is available by contacting the school office or by contacting the school PTA who will arrange for the items for you and leave them into the uniform swap box (located in the main school office).

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than specified non-school uniform days) while:

- On the school premises
- Travelling to and from school
- At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required)

Parents and pupils are also expected to contact Mrs Gibbons (headteacher) through the school office if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics. Please note that requests are considered by the school but may not be granted by the headteacher if such a request does not meet school expectations for a policy requirements of an adaptation.

5.2 Parents and carers

Parents and carers are expected to make sure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that every item is:

- Clean
- Clearly labelled with the child's name
- In good condition

Parents are also expected to contact Mrs Gibbons (headteacher) through the school office if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics
- The cost of the uniform

Parents are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner in line with the schools complaints policy.

Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be:

- Resolved locally
- Dealt with in accordance with our school's complaints policy

The school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome. Parents are requested to respect that where a resolve can not be sought that it is the schools discretion to ensure that the school uniform is to align to the school principles, mission, ethos and reflect safe health & safety practices.

5.3 Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply (parents are notified of breaches through letter or text communications), but will follow up with the headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by Mrs Gibbons (headteacher) or members of the senior leadership team.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

5.4 Governors

The governing board will review this policy and make sure that it:

- Is appropriate for our school's context
- Is implemented fairly across the school

- Takes into account the views of parents and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

The board will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, for example by avoiding single supplier contracts and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed on the 3 year cycle or when amendments arise by Mrs Gibbons. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- PE policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy